

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 /103 W

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R 131409Z OCT 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9815

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4396

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN

SUBJECT: SEATING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SWITZERLAND AND
OTHER OBSERVER STATES

REF: USUN 4167

1. UN LEGAL COUNSEL SUY TOLD MISOFF 12 OCTOBER OF HIS
QUIET EFFORTS TO ENLIST BRITISH SUPPORT TO DAMP DOWN THE
SWISS REQUEST FOR A TABLE WITH NAME PLATE IN THE GA
PLENARY AND MAIN COMMITTEES. HE HAD SPOKEN IN THIS VEIN
TO FCO LEGAL ADVISER SINCLAIR AND TO UKUN'S FIFOOT, POINT-
ING OUT THE POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR ANGOLA, VIETNAM
AND NORTH KOREA. HE WOULD NOT WISH THE WEO GROUP TO
ARGUE FURTHER WITH WALDHEIM AND UNDER SYG BUFFUM FOR
SWITZERLAND UNLESS THE GROUP HAD CONSIDERED THESE PROBLEMS.
HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF THE US WOULD EXPLAIN
PLAINLY TO SWITZERLAND THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED.

2. SUY SAID HE COULD APPRECIATE WHY THE SWISS SHOULD
WISH TO BE TREATED NOT LESS WELL THAN THE PLO AND OTHER
OBSERVERS REPRESENTING NON-STATE ENTITIES OR INTERGOVERN-
MENTAL BODIES. HOWEVER, EVEN ON THE MERITS THE SWISS
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SHOULD REALIZE THAT THEIR "ENTITLEMENT" TO A DESK AND SIGN

IS CONTROVERSIAL. AFTER ALL, THE REASON THEY DO NOT HAVE THESE IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE FREELY DECIDED AGAINST APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP (THE CASE BEING DIFFERENT THAN VIETNAM AND ANGOLA). IF THEY HAD THE DESK AND PLATE THEY WOULD COMFORTABLY POSSESS ALMOST ALL THE RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP WITH PRACTICALLY NONE OF THE BURDENS, IN WHICH CIRCUMSTANCES THEY WOULD NEVER AGAIN SERIOUSLY CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT TO JOIN THE UN AS A FULL MEMBER STATE.

3. UNLESS DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES OBJECTION, MISSION PLANS TO DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH SWISS AMBASSADOR MARCUARD THIS WEEK.
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING OBSERVERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN04396
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760384-0949
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761055/aaaabvrr.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USUN NEW YORK 4167
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEATING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SWITZERLAND AND OTHER OBSERVER STATES
TAGS: PFOR, SZ, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006